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**From:** Barron, Alex (DEQ) [Alex.Barron@deq.virginia.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/30/2016 2:50:47 PM  
**To:** Atkinson, Cheryl [Atkinson.Cheryl@epa.gov]; Whitehurst, David (DEQ) [David.Whitehurst@deq.virginia.gov]; Shah Nawaz (shah.nawaz@dc.gov) [shah.nawaz@dc.gov]; Searing, Mary (DOEE) [mary.searing@dc.gov]; Diehl, Rebecca (DOEE) [rebecca.diehl@dc.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Updated national 304(a) criteria for cadmium is now available.

Thanks Cheryl. This is great !

I think this sets a record for finalizing a criteria update. Less than a year from draft proposal to final.

As you know, Virginia has been looking forward to updating our cadmium criteria and we intend to move forward with proposing these new criteria as soon as possible.

Now if EPA could also finish the updated criteria for selenium.....  
Thanks again for sharing this quickly.

Alex

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**From:** Atkinson, Cheryl [mailto:Atkinson.Cheryl@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2016 10:10 AM  
**To:** Barron, Alex (DEQ); Whitehurst, David (DEQ); Shah Nawaz (shah.nawaz@dc.gov); Searing, Mary (DOEE); Diehl, Rebecca (DOEE)  
**Subject:** FW: Updated national 304(a) criteria for cadmium is now available.

**From:** Behl, Betsy

Greetings,

I am pleased to announce that EPA has published updated 304(a) national water quality criteria for aquatic life for the metal cadmium. Acute exposure to cadmium causes mortality at elevated concentrations. Chronic exposure to cadmium negatively impacts growth, development, behavior, reproduction, and immune and endocrine systems in aquatic life.

The 2016 cadmium water quality criteria reflect the best available science, including the results of laboratory aquatic toxicity tests for 75 new species. In addition, the effect of total hardness (the amount of dissolved calcium and magnesium in water) on cadmium toxicity was revised with the newly acquired data. The criteria have undergone an external peer review and a 60 day public comment period.

EPA's 304(a) national water quality criteria for cadmium provide recommendations to states and tribes authorized to establish water quality standards under the Clean Water Act.

For more information [look here](#) . Please contact Mike Elias at [elias.mike@epa.gov](mailto:elias.mike@epa.gov) with questions.

Please share this information with interested partners and colleagues.

Elizabeth (Betsy) Behl, Director  
Health and Ecological Criteria Division, 4304-T  
Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water  
United States Environmental Protection Agency

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington DC 20460

phone: 202.566.0788  
room 5233H